



WAKE UP



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Brief Insights

Rahul Gandhi Likely to Watch Messi-Revanth Football Match in Uppal Today

AICC leader Rahul Gandhi is likely to visit Hyderabad on Saturday to witness the 'friendly match' between football icon Lionel Messi's team and the squad led by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy at the Uppal stadium, according to party sources. Official sources in the Chief Minister's Office clarified that no confirmation had been received from Rahul Gandhi regarding his participation in the event.

Revanth Reddy had extended a formal invitation to Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi during his Delhi visit on Wednesday, where he met them at a private gathering hosted at the residence of NCP(SP) chief and MP Sharad Pawar. The CM requested both leaders to attend the high-profile sporting event featuring Messi.

Bill to Set Up Single Higher Education Regulator Gets Cabinet Nod

A Bill to set up a higher education regulator was approved by the Union Cabinet on Friday, officials said. The single higher education regulator was proposed in the new National Education Policy (NEP), looks to replace the University Grants Commission (UGC), the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) and the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE). Medical and law colleges will not be brought under its ambit. Funding, which is seen as the fourth vertical, is not proposed to be under the regulator so far. The autonomy for funding is proposed to be with the administrative ministry.

The proposed legislation, Viksit Bharat Shiksha Adhikshan Bill, is proposed to have three major roles — regulate

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Worry Over 9 Students Ending Life in Six Months in AP

The Parents' Association of Andhra Pradesh has raised concern over the rise in student suicides across the state. The association passed an emergency resolution urging the government to act without delay, and submitted this to the chief minister after a round-table meeting in Nellore on Friday. The association said nine students in Nellore district have died by suicide in the past six months, seven of them inside hostels or in the college premises. The association described the trend as a sign of a deeper crisis in the education system. It criticised the government for failing to release a white paper on student deaths, despite repeated appeals. Referring to a Supreme Court verdict on July 25, the association noted that the court recognised mental

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US to Seek Intrusive Access to Visa applicants' Internet Use

NEW DELHI
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The United States department of homeland security (DHS) will seek intrusive access to personal information from individuals applying to visit the US for short trips through the Electronic System for Travel Authorisation (ESTA). The US travel programme allows citizens of certain coun-

tries to enter the country without a visa for short business or tourism visits. Under the new proposal, applicants would need to provide "high-value data fields", including all social media accounts used by the applicant, a list of all email addresses the applicant used in the past 10 years, IP addresses and even the applicant's DNA. DHS says the measures are meant to strengthen

national security and improve the accuracy of background checks. India is not part of the US visa waiver programme, so Indian citizens cannot apply for ESTA. However, immigration experts believe the move signals a wider shift in US security policy, which may soon affect other visa categories as well.

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NEW DELHI
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Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday advised National Democratic Alliance (NDA) MPs from Uttar Pradesh to work efficiently and ensure that their work reaches the public. He assured them of his full support, during their meeting held in the Prime Minister's chamber in Parliament. Speaking to this newspaper, an NDA MP said that the Prime Minister talked about a range of issues and advised all the MPs present there to effectively communicate with the people and make them aware about the development work being done by the lawmakers.

Sources said that the Prime Minister also asked the MPs to get more active on social media for



better public outreach. He assured the MPs of his full support. "The PM said he is standing with us and we must keep working," the NDA MP said. During the meeting, Modi, according to sources, took a dig at the Congress and said it only makes promises and becomes active only when polls approach. Express-

ing concern about the lack of adequate publicity about NDA government schemes among people, sources said that the Prime Minister noted that the government works continuously throughout the year, yet it does not effectively reach out to the people. According to sources the 2027 Uttar Pradesh As-

sembly election was also discussed, though they did not divulge the details. In the 2024 general elections, the BJP-led NDA won 36 seats. When asked about any discussion about Uttar Pradesh Assembly polls, an MP present in the meeting refused to comment. On Thursday, the Prime Minister had hosted a dinner for the NDA MPs at his residence at 7, Lok Kalyan Marg. "Was a delight to have hosted NDA MPs for dinner at 7, Lok Kalyan Marg this evening. The NDA family represents a shared commitment to good governance, national development and regional aspirations. Together, we will continue working to strengthen our nation's development journey in the years ahead," Modi posted on X after the dinner.

Congress Dominates Gram Panchayat Polls

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Congress on Friday claimed a resounding lead in the first phase of the gram panchayat elections, with Congress-backed candidates winning 2,864 sarpanch posts—accounting for around 55 per cent of the total 4,235 seats. According to the ruling party's district-wise compilation report, the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) secured 1,143 seats (26.99 per cent), the BJP won 185 seats (4.37 per cent), while independents and others accounted for 43 seats (1.02 per cent).

Vote counting began soon after polling concluded at 1 pm on Thursday and continued into the early hours of Friday. The results showed Congress-supported candidates leading in all 31 districts that went to the polls, pushing the BRS and BJP to distant second and third

positions respectively. In several districts, the Congress registered decisive victories. In Adilabad, it won 120 of 166 seats, followed by the BRS with 37 and the BJP with nine. Bhadrakri Kothagudem saw the ruling party clinch 120 of 159 seats, while the BRS won 37 and others 17. In Hanamkonda, Congress secured 39 of 69 seats, ahead of the BRS (20) and BJP (10).

The party also dominated Jagtial with 72 of 122 seats, Jangaon with 81 of 110, and Jayashankar Bhupalpally with 59 of 82 seats. In Jogulamba Gadwal, Congress swept 88 of 106 seats, leaving eight to the BRS and 10 to the BJP. Kamareddy recorded 100 Congress victories out of 167 seats, while Karimnagar saw the party win 60 of 92.

Strong performances were also reported from Khammam, where Con-

gress won 145 of 192 seats, and from districts such as Komaram Bheem Asifabad, Mahbubabad, Mahbubnagar, Mancherla and Medak, where Congress-backed nominees secured comfortable margins over their rivals.

In Mulugu, the party won 37 of 48 seats, while Nagarkurnool saw 95 of 151 seats go to Congress-supported candidates. Nalgonda emerged as one of the biggest success stories, with the party winning 231 of 318 seats. Congress also swept Narayanpet (55 of 67) and Nirmal (98 of 136).

In Nizamabad, Congress-backed candidates won 153 seats, while the BRS and BJP managed 15 and 16 seats respectively. Peddapalli recorded 74 Congress wins, Rajanna Sircilla 47, Rangareddy 103, and Sangareddy 80 seats, along with nine won by others. Siddipet saw Congress take 87 of 163.

Rahul Pushes for Debate on Pollution in Lok Sabha

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Leader of the Opposition Rahul Gandhi on Friday said major cities across the country were living under a blanket of poisonous air, and sought a discussion to find a solution to the issue of air pollution. Raising the issue during Zero Hour, Gandhi asserted that the issue was not an ideological one and urged the government to frame a discussion in such a manner that the opposition and treasury benches can find a solution to the problem instead of trading abuses.

"We should have a detailed discussion in Parliament on this, and the Prime Minister should put in place a methodical, systematic plan for each city-one that can, over the next 5 or 10 years, make life easier for our people," Gandhi said. Parliamentary affairs minister Kiren



Rijiju said the government was ready for a discussion on the issue and the business advisory committee of the Lok Sabha can allot time for the same.

"Most of our major cities are living under a blanket of poisonous air. Millions of children are getting lung disease. Their future is being destroyed. People are getting cancer. Older people are struggling to breathe," Gandhi said. "This is an interesting issue because I am certain that there would be full agreement between the government and us on this. This is not an ideological issue; everybody

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ESTD - 1960

ASTORIA HOTEL

Hyderabad Laziz Biryani

ek baar khaoge
baar baar aaoge

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5 - 9 - 8 / C AG OFFICE ROAD, OPPOSITE TO RBI, HYDERABAD

Telangana Tops With 27 pc Capital Outlay In Total Expenditure

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Telangana topped among states by using 27 per cent of its total expenditure on capital outlay in Q2FY26. Telangana made the fastest growth of 10.1 percentage points in capital expenditure ratio in Q2FY26 when compared to the second quarter average ratio during FY17-FY25. The capital outlay of 25 states grew 3.7 per cent yoy during 2QFY26, leading to an improvement in the quality of states’ expenditure. The

quality of expenditure is gauged by the proportion of capital outlay in total expenditure (COTE). A higher COTE ratio implies a higher proportion of funds being expended towards productive assets, which is favourable for the economy. The COTE ratio rose to 13.1 per cent in 2QFY26 from a four-quarter low of 10.3 per cent in 1QFY26. Although it was lower than 13.5 per cent in 2QFY25, it remained better than the long-term second quarter average of 11.9 per cent



during FY17-FY25, found India Ratings and Research. Telangana was at the top by using 27 per

cent of its total expenditure for capital outlay. It improved its ratio by 10.1 per cent from 16.9

per cent- the second quarter average during FY17-FY25. After Telangana, Gujarat

had the second highest COTE at 22.3 per cent, Sikkim at 21.4 per cent, Madhya Pradesh at 18.9 per cent and Uttarakhand at 18.8 per cent. Apart from Telangana, the other states which made major improvements in the COTE ratio in Q2 FY26 were Maharashtra at 7.9pp, Gujarat 6.5pp, Assam 6.0pp, Uttarakhand 3.8pp and Bihar 2.9pp in 2QFY26 compared to their long-term second quarter averages. Among states recording decline in COTE, Uttar Pradesh was down by 4.6pp, Chhattisgarh

4.4pp and Himachal Pradesh 3.9pp. Ind-Ra estimates that the states’ aggregate capex in 2HFY26 would increase to 3.4 per cent of GDP against 3.2 per cent in the same period last year. The states’ capex in 1HFY26 was 1.8 per cent of GDP, same as last year. “The union government distributed an additional instalment of tax devolution to the states in October. Ind-Ra believes this, along with the instrumental long-term interest-free loans, will boost the states’ capex plans in 2HFY26.

Historically, the states have tended to increase their capex in the second half of the financial year. We expect the states to increase capex spending further in 2HFY26 to cover the shortfall in targets in 1HFY26,” said Paras Jasrai, Associate Director, Ind-Ra. The states’ own non-tax revenue too has increased, though grants from the union government continued to pull down the receipts of the states as they fell 27.3 per cent yoy during 2QFY26, sharpest in seven quarters.

KBR Park Event Faces Objections over Wildlife Act Violations



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Hyderabad-based citizens and environmental groups have objected to the proposed annual day celebrations by the Nature Park Walkers Association inside KBR Park, warning that walking and brisk-walking competitions scheduled on December 13 violated the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, and threatened the park’s protected status. In a statement issued on Friday, the groups said the

banner displayed at the park entrance announcing the event had alarmed conservation-minded citizens and regular park users. “KBR is not an urban leisure park or public playground. It is a legally notified National Park under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972,” the statement said, adding that organised competitions and gatherings inside the park breach both the spirit and letter of the law. They also raised concern over senior forest department officials

being listed as chief guest and guest of honour for the event. The groups said such participation or tacit approval would set a dangerous precedent and weaken the very purpose for which KBR was declared a protected area. Pointing to alternatives, the citizens noted that Hyderabad has adequate public spaces for walking and fitness activities, including the GHMC walkway surrounding the park, playgrounds, sports stadia and open grounds. The statement demanded immediate withdrawal of permission for any organised event inside the park, a public clarification from officials listed as guests, and strict directions barring future events, competitions or functions within the KBR Park.

A Cappella Ensemble Presents Wide Seasonal Repertoire

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A varied evening of festive music came together at Ravindra Bharathi with Beyond Christmas, a concert performed by a secular cappella choir alongside its junior chorus. The programme moved from children’s pieces to senior ensemble work, with solos, duets and a quartet adding movement through the set. The junior chorus, with singers aged 4 to 15, opened with ‘Go Light Your World, Let It Be Christmas’ and ‘Winter Wonderland’, supported by piano, guitar and drums. Senior performers followed with pieces such as ‘Alleluia’, ‘A New Noel’, ‘Sending You A Little Christmas’, ‘White Christmas’, ‘Seasons of Love’ and ‘I Will Follow Him’. Later sections included ‘Siyahamba’, the quartet version of ‘All I Want for



Christmas’ and the final medley, ‘A Holiday Road of Carols’, conducted by Nise Meruno, with Riddhiman Dutta as assistant conductor. Nathaniel D., a choir member, described the group as a mix of many identities and experiences. “We have people from all walks of life. We do jazz, pop, Broadway and choral arrangements, and there’s no biasness in our choir,” he said. He added that singing together gives members a sense of belonging, saying, “We come from different places, but on stage it

feels like one space.” One of the core representatives of the team explained that the title ‘Beyond Christmas’ came from conversations about how people relate to the season. “Beyond Christmas celebrates the birth of Christ and the holiday spirit. Many of the songs that we sang were about the joy of the season, the festive season, and not all of them were based on just Christmas, hence the name “Beyond Christmas,” Ashrita D’Souza, co-founder and director of the choir told.

Governor Meets BJP Leaders on Community Welfare



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Telangana Governor Jishnu Dev Verma today met with BJP Telangana State Vice President (Minority Morcha) Alka Manoj and other community leaders at Lok Bhavan to discuss community services and welfare initiatives across various sectors of society. The meeting also included felicitations and greetings from Dr. Mohammed Vaseemuddin, Pastor David Sudhakar, and other prominent community members,

who extended Christmas 2025 greetings and emphasized harmony and peace. Among those present were Mr. Manoj, J.J. Prasad Babu, Pastor Judi, Pastor Dr. Joseph Vinod, Pastor Dr. Poojitha Vinod, Mr. Ebenezer Benedict Thomas (CEO, Word And Deed India), and Mrs. Sunitha Vinay, Principal of Word and Deed Junior College. The discussions focused on collaborative efforts to enhance community welfare and promote social development across Telangana..

Kalalee Jaiswal Sabha Invites Telangana Congress President as Chief Guest for Annual



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A delegation of the Kalalee Jaiswal Sabha met Mahesh Kumar Goud, President of the Telangana State Congress Committee, and warmly invited him to attend the Annual Cordial Meeting as Chief Guest. The distinguished gathering, aimed at promoting cultural pride, social harmony, and community development, will be held on 21 December at RTC Kalyana

Mandapam, Bagh Lingampally, Hyderabad. The delegation—comprising Rakesh Jaiswal, Corporator of Jambagh, along with Swaroop Jaiswal, Devendhar Jaiswal, and Mahesh Jaiswal—shared details of the programme and expressed enthusiasm for making the event vibrant and memorable. They conveyed confidence that the presence of Mahesh Kumar Goud would add inspiration and significance to the celebrations.

BJP Leaders Voice Strong Objections to GHMC Delimitation in Chandrayangutta

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The proposed delimitation of divisions under the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) has sparked political controversy, with a delegation of BJP leaders submitting a formal objection to the Deputy Commissioner of Chandrayangutta. The leaders alleged that the Congress government, in coordination with the AIMIM, was attempting to restructure municipal boundaries in a way that could allegedly consolidate political advantages for the AIMIM, particularly in Old City areas. During a detailed objection meeting, BJP representatives expressed concerns that the merger of surrounding municipalities into GHMC and the subsequent redesigning of divisions were being carried out without transparency. They claimed that several newly proposed divisions appeared to dis-



proportionately favor the AIMIM and could, in their view, undermine fair representation. The delegation included BJP BNZ General Secretary Pandarinath, former Chandrayangutta MLA candidate Koudi Mahender, SC Morcha Vice President Madaari Chandrashekar, as well as Masku Kumar, Vijay, Mahender Reddy, Kapatthi Srinivas, Sai Prasad, Madhu Sudhan, Laxman, S. Ravi, Prabhakar, and Naresh. The leaders submitted a written memorandum outlining their objections and demanded that the process be revisited to ensure neutrality and public interest. Speaking to officials, the

BJP leaders argued that the proposed map divisions could distort demographic balance and restrict political competition. They urged the administration to maintain democratic norms and consider public feedback before finalizing any changes. The Deputy Commissioner acknowledged receipt of the objections and assured the delegation that all submissions from political parties and citizens would be reviewed as part of the official deliberation process. He stated that the GHMC would follow procedural guidelines before final approval of the delimitation plan.

Kavitha Demands Urgent Completion of Musaram Bagh Bridge in Amberpet

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Telangana Jagruthi President Kalvakuntla Kavitha has demanded urgent completion of the Musaram Bagh Bridge and highlighted serious infrastructure issues in Amberpet, a key business and education hub with a dense population. She warned that the ongoing bridge construction on the Musi River is of poor quality, with sagging pillars and beams observed after recent floods. Kavitha stressed the need for redesigning the bridge and starting work immediately. The high-level bridge, connecting Malakpet and Amberpet, began construction three years ago but was stalled when the government changed. During the recent floods, water reached the bridge’s height, prompting calls for increasing the structure’s elevation to match flood levels. Kavitha also noted that rising traffic in the area warrants the construction of an additional bridge. Amberpet, she said, suffers from repeated government negligence in roads, bridges, and housing for the poor. Despite the area’s high population density, very few houses have been provided to low-income residents. Kavitha criticized authorities for constructing new sheds at the vegetable market without addressing broader infrastructure needs.



Kavitha emphasized that Jagruthi Sanstha, which she has led for 19 years, works independently and is committed to solving local problems without political affiliation. “We have a team of young leaders in Amberpet who constantly fight for the people. We will hoist the Jagruthi flag in every street and remain among the people, irrespective of party politics,” she said. She criticized the practice of governments halting essential works when political leadership changes, contrasting it with states like Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu where projects continue uninterrupted. Highlighting her long-standing engagement with residents, Kavitha said, “People trust us to raise their issues because they know we will work to solve them.” During her inspection, Kavitha also noted that authorities rushed to lay roads in Amberpet only after knowing she would visit, underscoring the need for consistent planning rather than short-term, reactive measures.

Eleti Maheshwar Reddy Arrested During BJP Dharna Over Singareni Funds



BJP Legislative Party Leader Eleti Maheshwar Reddy was arrested by police at Singareni Bhavan in Red Hills while leading a protest alleging misuse of Singareni funds by the state government. The BJP organized the Dharna under Reddy's leadership to draw attention to the alleged financial irregularities in the management of Singareni funds. Party leaders claimed that the government is misappropriating resources meant for employees and operations of the coal company. The protest saw a strong turnout of BJP workers demanding accountability and transparency in Singareni operations. Police intervened to control the situation, resulting in Reddy's detention. BJP leaders have vowed to continue their campaign and take the issue to higher authorities, emphasizing the need for strict oversight of state-run corporations.

RBI report confirms BRS-era reforms transformed Telangana's economy

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A decade after Telangana began its journey as India's youngest State, the numbers narrate a story that even early sceptics can no longer dismiss. Between 2014-15 and 2023-24, Telangana witnessed one of the sharpest economic and agricultural expansions in the country, powered by sustained investments in irrigation, infrastructure and rural productivity under the BRS government. The latest Handbook of Statistics on Indian States 2024-25, released by the Reserve Bank of

India, offers the clearest validation of Telangana's dramatic transformation during the decade of BRS governance. In contrast, the first year of Congress rule (2024-25) shows growth continuing on sheer momentum, but with no major leap across key indicators. When Telangana was formed, its Per Capita NSDP stood at Rs 1,24,104 (2014-15). By the end of the BRS tenure, it had surged to Rs 3,47,714 (2023-24), a nearly threefold rise, placing Telangana among the top-performing States. The increase to Rs 3,87,623 in 2024-25 under Congress marks

only a marginal rise, signalling continuation rather than acceleration. A similar pattern emerges in the Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP). Telangana's economy expanded from Rs 5.05 lakh crore in 2014-15 to Rs 14.61 lakh crore in 2023-24, a near-tripling driven by rapid industrialisation and a booming service sector. In contrast, the Congress-era rise to Rs 16.4 lakh crore in 2024-25 reflected a continuation of momentum rather than fresh policy impact. Gross State Value Added (GSVA) echoed this trend with an increase from Rs 4.66 lakh crore

at the State formation to Rs 13.48 lakh crore by 2023-24, before inching up to Rs 15.17 lakh crore in 2024-25. The most striking turnaround has been in the agriculture sector, which was once crippled by drought, debt and migration. Telangana's gross sown area expanded from 53.15 lakh hectares to 84.86 lakh hectares, while gross irrigated area more than doubled from 25.29 lakh hectares to 62.89 lakh hectares, driven by construction of major irrigation projects including the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project and Mission Kakatiya. As a result, there was a

structural shift in cropping patterns and higher land utilisation. Cropping intensity which languished at 121.5 per cent in 2014-15, surged to 152.5 per cent by 2023-24, indicating irrigation-led transformation. Foodgrain output tells the same story. Total foodgrain production rose from 71.1 lakh tonnes in 2014-15 to 2.02 crore tonnes in 2023-24. The increase to 2.16 crore tonnes in 2024-25 under the Congress is again, only incremental and largely a reflection of expanded acreage achieved earlier. Rice production quadrupled, from 44.4 lakh

tonnes to 1.68 crore tonnes by 2023-24, again with only modest growth of 1.74 crore tonnes. Livestock and fisheries, which are crucial for rural income diversification also recorded sharp growth under BRS. Meat production rose from 5.05 lakh tonnes to 11 lakh tonnes, milk output from 42 lakh tonnes to 58.4 lakh tonnes, and fish production from 2.68 lakh tonnes to 4.56 lakh tonnes. Storage capacity for foodgrains improved from 17.96 lakh tonnes to 30.50 lakh tonnes, but remaining almost stagnant thereafter. Even forest cover in-

creased from 19,957 sq km to 21,179 sq km, marking steady environmental gains. Thus, the RBI data underscores a decade of accelerated economic and agrarian restructuring in Telangana. Far from the politically motivated Congress narrative of inflated claims, the numbers pointed to a State that grew rapidly on the back of public investment, irrigation expansion and rural infrastructure. Now, the State is facing the challenge of sustaining that momentum under the Congress regime, which is yet to make its mark on key indicators.

Telangana BJP Chief Hails Sports for Youth, Nation-Building

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Telangana State BJP President N. Ramchander Rao emphasized the growing importance of sports in nation-building and youth development during the inaugural function of the 41st National Senior Kyorgi Championship at the G. M. C. Balayogi Indoor

Stadium here. Rao highlighted the remarkable progress of Indian athletes, noting that earlier the country struggled to even win a bronze medal, but now Indian players are securing Gold, Silver, and Bronze medals even at the Olympics. He credited the Modi government's increased focus on sports, pointing out that funding for sports has increased 130 times



since 2014. He praised initiatives like Khelo India and Khelo Kudo, stating that these programs have significantly improved the sports skills of the youth, while competitions like the Kyorgi Championship help unearth talent and offer opportunities to compete at both national and international levels. Quoting Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision,

Rao said, "Youth development and the strengthening of sports play a crucial role in achieving 'Viksit Bharat - 2047'." He added that the central government is continuously taking measures to make sports a force that strengthens personality development, skill enhancement, and national integration. Rao noted that the determination to use sports as

a guiding force in nation-building is clearly visible through these programs. Rao extended a warm welcome to athletes from across India, including Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur, urging them to enjoy Hyderabad's hospitality and the city's world-famous delicacies, including the iconic Hyderabad Biryani.

People Reject Revanth Rule in Panchayat Polls: Dasoju Sravan

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The results of the first phase of the 2025 Panchayat elections have sent a strong message against the Revanth Reddy-led Congress government, MLC Dr. Dasoju Sravan said on Friday. Out of 12,700 gram panchayats, the BRS won only 1,345 sarpanch seats in the first phase of 4,236 panchayats, highlighting growing public discontent, even though ruling parties are traditionally favored by 90% of voters.



Dr. Sravan said rural voters have strongly resisted Revanth Reddy's "cut drama" and monetary allurements. The performance of BRS candidates, who withstood heavy pressures and money politics, reflects the resilience of democracy, he added. Citing specific defeats, he noted Congress's loss in Polkampally near the CM's hometown of Kon-

gareddypalli, BRS victories in Eturu Nagaram (Seethakka constituency), and Congress MLA Murali Nayak's loss in Mahabubabad, where he had to return money to voters. He also criticized Congress's Jubilee Hills victory, calling it an insult to democratic principles. Shraavan highlighted public anger over the CM's spending, despite claiming insufficient

funds to fulfill promises. He condemned the destruction of the Uppal Cricket Stadium pitch, the hundred-crore Messi vs. Mestri football event, and diversion of Singareni funds as misuse of taxpayers' money. Warning that opposition sentiment is likely to grow in the second and third phases, Shraavan called on BRS activists to unite and strengthen public support. Former Chairman Madari Rakesh and former Somajiguda corporator Mahesh Yadav participated in the discussion.

Kavitha Inspects Dilapidated Homes, Promises Action in Secunderabad Slums

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Santosh chowdary

Telangana Jagruthi President Kalvakuntla Kavitha on Friday visited CBN Nagar and other slums in Secunderabad, inspecting dilapidated houses and listening to residents' grievances. Residents told Kavitha they were living in fear as the roofs of their homes, some over 30 years old, were collapsing. She assured them that Jagruthi would stand by the community and press the government to take immediate action. As part of the ongoing Jagruthi Janambata Program, now in its third day in Hyderabad, Kavitha and her team visited Ad-



dagutta Basti, CBN Nagar, and Manikeshwari Nagar slums to document long-standing problems faced by wage-earning families. She criticized the government for neglecting colonies where large numbers of people live in unsafe conditions. "The roof of a house in CBN Nagar is falling on residents. These homes must be demolished and replaced with new houses immediately," she said. Residents also expressed frustration that despite

buying land worth Rs. 70 lakh, the government had not provided promised housing. Kavitha demanded that the Congress government fulfill its election promise and grant Indiramma houses to all eligible poor families in the area. During her visit, Kavitha also visited the Secunderabad Gurudwara, offering prayers with Sikh religious leaders, emphasizing community solidarity alongside her campaign to address slum housing issues. The inspection highlights Telangana Jagruthi's push to bring long-unresolved civic problems to the attention of authorities and ensure accountability in urban housing schemes.

Experts Meet on Coinage, Economy of South India

The 107th annual national conference of the Numismatic Society of India, themed 'Coinage and Economy of Southern India', will be hosted for the first time by the department of heritage in collaboration with the Numismatic Society of India for two days, starting from December 11 at Dr Marri Channa Reddy HRD Institute. "The department is conducting this event 80 years post independence," said department director Prof K. Arjun Rao. The last time it conducted the event was in 1941. He said this shows the government's support for research, in addition to the conservation of sites and museums. A total of 76 research papers were submitted by scholars from different states who will participate in the seminar. Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka and tourism minister Jupally Krishna Rao will inaugurate the session. As part of the seminar, several excavated coins will be exhibited for people at the event. Numismatic Society of India chairman Dr D. Raja Reddy said "The society was founded by five Britishers and one Parsi from India. They realised that coins were essential for reconstructing the history of India. Without the ancient coins, the Brahmi Script may not have been decoded." He added that the Puranas do not clearly tell us who founded Satavahana dynasty, but with the help of coins it was found out. Coins also tell us who ruled from which year and the lineage of the kings.

Cabinet Approves Coal Setu Window to Boost Exports, Transparency

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The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has approved the 'Coal Setu Window', a significant initiative aimed at enhancing transparency in the coal and mining sector and promoting exports. The scheme will allow non-regulated sector companies—such as cement, steel, sponge iron, and aluminum—to use coal for their own requirements and also export it abroad. The fertilizer and power sectors are excluded from this provision. Union Minister for Coal and Mines, G. Kishan Reddy, said the Coal Setu

Window will also enable domestic washery operators to process coal locally. This will increase the availability of quality coal in the country and reduce reliance on imports, particularly for washed coal, which has seen high demand in recent years. The approval of the Coal Setu Window comes amid several transformative reforms in India's coal and mining sector under the Modi government. For the first time in history, India has achieved the milestone of producing and transporting 1 billion tonnes of coal. Since 2015, the government has introduced a transparent auction process for the allocation of mines, eliminating corruption and

irregularities. In addition, amendments to the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regularization) Act have strengthened the regulatory framework of the sector. These initiatives are part of the government's broader vision to make India self-sufficient in coal, enhance domestic production, and develop the country as a hub for coal exports. By enabling private sector participation and encouraging modern coal processing, the Coal Setu Window is expected to create a more efficient, transparent, and globally competitive coal sector, supporting India's energy security and industrial growth.

People Will Support Parties That Stand With Them: Akhilesh Yadav

HYDERABAD
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Santosh chowdary

Samajwadi Party (SP) President Akhilesh Yadav on Thursday visited Hyderabad, met Telangana IT and Industries Minister K. T. Rama Rao (KTR) at his residence in Banjara Hills, and expressed confidence in a changing political landscape in Telangana. Akhilesh said he would soon meet former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) to discuss issues and party strategies. Speaking to the media, Akhilesh thanked KTR



and BRS leaders for their warm welcome. He observed that victories and defeats are part of politics and provide an opportunity for parties to reassess

their performance. Citing the journey of the SP in Uttar Pradesh, he said, "Once we won very few seats, but the people stood by us. With their support,

we have now become the third-largest party in the country with 37 MPs, pushing BJP to second place." He expressed hope that the people of Telangana would similarly support the BRS if the party stays connected with them. Akhilesh stressed the need to move away from divisive politics, calling for progressive politics focused on development, positivity, and constructive discussions. He said, "Negativity should go away in politics. There should be discussions about progress, not division."

US forces stormed cargo ship travelling from China to Iran: Report

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

United States forces raided a cargo ship travelling from China to Iran last month, according to the Wall Street Journal, in the latest reported instance of increasingly aggressive maritime tactics by the administration of US President Donald Trump.

Unnamed officials told the newspaper that US military personnel boarded the ship several hundred miles from Sri Lanka, according to the report on Friday. It was the first time in several years US forces had intercepted cargo travelling from China to Iran, according to the newspaper. The operation took place in November, weeks



before US forces seized an oil tanker off the coast of Venezuela earlier this week, citing sanctions violations. It was another action Washington has not taken in years.

US Indo-Pacific Command did not immediately confirm the report. An official told the newspaper that they seized material

“potentially useful for Iran’s conventional weapons”. However, the official noted the seized items were dual-use, and could have both military and civilian applications. Officials said the ship was allowed to proceed following the interdiction, which involved special operation forces. Iran re-

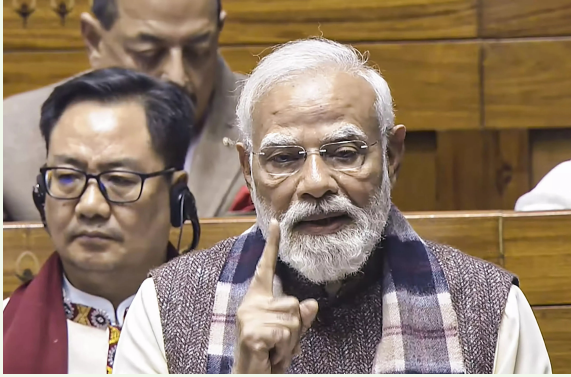
mains under heavy US sanctions. Neither Iran nor China immediately responded to the report, although Beijing, a key trading partner with Tehran, has regularly called the US sanctions illegal. Earlier in the day, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Guo Jiakun

condemned the seizure of the oil tanker off the coast of Venezuela, which was brought to a port in Texas on Friday. The action came amid a wider military pressure campaign against Venezuela, which Caracas has charged is aimed at toppling the government of leader Nicolas Maduro. Beijing “opposes unilateral illicit sanctions and long-arm jurisdiction that have no basis in international law or authorisation of the UN Security Council, and the abuse of sanctions”, Guo said. White House spokesperson Karoline Leavitt told reporters on Thursday the Trump administration would not rule out future seizures of vessels near Venezuela.

Modi, Shah, Rahul Meet to Pick CIC

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

A Prime Minister-led panel on Wednesday held a meeting to select a new Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) and eight other information commissioners. Besides Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union home minister Amit Shah and Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi held a meeting at PM’s chamber in the Parliament to pick the new CIC and eight information commissioners. Sources said that during the meeting, which lasted for over an hour, names for next vigilance commissioner in the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) were also discussed. Rahul Gandhi is



learnt to have submitted a dissent note at the meeting. “In the meeting, Rahul Gandhi objected to the names proposed by the government and registered his disagreement in writing,” sources said. Sources claimed that Rahul Gandhi has raised concerns that the government is making efforts to undermine the autonomy and independence of institutions meant to ensure

transparency and accountability. “Rahul Gandhi’s dissent is in line of continuation of those long-standing objections raised by him,” sources added. Earlier this month, the Centre has informed the Apex Court that the Modi-led selection panel will meet on December 10 to select and recommend names for these posts.

On Manipur’s 'Nupi Lan Day' To Honour Anti-Colonial Revolt, A Women Power Run In Delhi

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Women from Manipur including senior citizens participated in a run in honour of the 86th Nupi Lan (Women's War) Day. This day is observed in memory of the women of Manipur for rising up against British rule in 1904 and 1939.

Hundreds of women of all age groups came to Delhi University's north campus polo ground, which has a 400-metre synthetic track for running.

Wearing a fusion of the traditional phanek, white t-shirts with numbers on them, and sneakers, the participants began the run the moment the organiser blew the whistle.

"A defining moment in Manipur's history, Nupi Lan shows courage and determination of Manipuri women who mounted a



fierce resistance against colonial and economic oppression, thereby bringing profound economic and political reforms," the Delhi-based women's civil society organisation Ningol United Progressive Initiative (NUPI) told reporters on Friday.

The event marked a significant moment in NUPI's efforts to bring the story of women's resilience and courage to a broader audience, the organisers said. The participation of elderly women, teens and children at the run - a difficult activity at

least for the senior citizens - served as an example of strength in memory of Nupi Lan.

President Droupadi Murmu, who was in Manipur today, offered her respects at the Nupi Lan memorial in the state capital Imphal. The resistance by the women of Manipur against British rule remains powerful symbols of Manipuri women's leadership, courage and collective struggle.

Professor K Ratnabali, Delhi University dean of academic affairs, attended as the chief guest, and

journalist Sonia Sorenshangbam as the guest of honour, the organisers said.

Ratnabali said the women of Manipur are known for their hard work and resilience.

"The observance of the Nupi Lan Day seeks to educate, inspire, and bring people together to reflect on the relevance of those struggles in today's socio-political context," NUPI president Ranjana Longjam said.

In the 2023 event in Delhi, a 17-year-old girl and an 84-year-old woman were the youngest and the eldest runners. Olympic silver medalist and Manipur resident Mirabai Chanu, who attended the event that year, had told NDTV nothing could have prepared her to see Manipur's imas (mothers) run spiritedly for several kilometres in their traditional phanek.

Illegal Detention, Local Bodies Polls: Court Setbacks For Punjab Government

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The Aam Aadmi Party government in Punjab has been hit by two sharp setbacks in a span of days. The Punjab and Haryana High Court has made strong observations against the state machinery -- first over alleged lapses in the local bodies elections, and then over an unlawful detention case linked with political rivalry.

In the first case, the High Court pulled up the Punjab Election Commission over its handling of the zila parishad and block samiti elections held on December 14.

The controversy centers an audio clip involving Patiala top cop Varun Sharma. In the clip, Sharma is purportedly heard ordering junior officers to stop Opposition candidates from filing their nomination for the Zila parishad and Block Samiti elections, which is due on December 14.

In a detailed order, Chief Justice Sheel Nagu and Justice Sanjiv Berry noted that the SEC failed to meet the standards of neutrality expected during elections.



The bench remarked that the Commission "ought to have risen to the occasion" and taken immediate steps to eliminate even the perception of bias.

The judges said the Commission should have entrusted the verification of the audio and video evidence to a neutral agency outside the state government's control and should have removed SSP Varun Sharma from election duty pending inquiry. The court's remarks amount to a stern reminder on maintaining the sanctity of the electoral process.

In another blow to the administration, the High Court took to task the police and district officials of Ferozepur for allegedly obstructing the release of gangster-turned-politician

Gurpreet Singh Sekhon despite bail being ready for submission.

The matter, heard by Justice Sanjay Vashisth, stemmed from a petition filed by Sekhon's mother, who alleged that her son's detention was politically motivated due to an ongoing dispute with a village sarpanch aligned with the ruling party.

The court expressed concern that Sekhon's lawyer, who had the necessary surety documents, was reportedly barred from completing the paperwork - leading to him being sent to jail on December 12. Calling the delay "serious" and "unacceptable," the court ordered the Deputy Commissioner of Police to personally ensure the immediate completion of bail formalities.

Any further delay, the bench warned, will be treated as a violation of fundamental rights, and strict action will follow.

With the local body polls around the corner, the court's remarks have not only raised questions over administrative neutrality but have also put the government on notice that any lapse, perceived or real, will now face far stricter judicial oversight.

US to Seek Intrusive Access to Visa applicants’ Internet Use

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The United States department of homeland security (DHS) will seek intrusive access to personal information from individuals applying to visit the US for short trips through the Electronic System for Travel Authorisation (ESTA). The US travel programme allows citizens of certain countries to enter the country without a visa for short business or tourism visits. Under the new proposal, applicants would need to provide “high-value data fields”, including all social media accounts used by the applicant, a list of all email addresses the applicant used in the past 10 years, IP addresses and even the applicant's DNA.

DHS says the measures are meant to strengthen national security and improve the accuracy of background checks. India is not part of the US visa waiver programme, so Indian citizens



cannot apply for ESTA. However, immigration experts believe the move signals a wider shift in US security policy, which may soon affect other visa categories as well. Analysts believe that similar information-collection requirements could be extended to B-1 (business) and B-2 (tourist) visas in the future, which is how Indians and other non-Visa Waiver Program countries have to apply to go to the United States.

“Non-immigrant visa applicants like students on F-1, M and J visa classes, skilled workers on H-1B visas and their dependents on H-4 visas already undergo detailed security screening that includes social-media his-

tory. DHS is already planning for online screening, but additional checks on emails and even DNA sampling of applicants could be brought to B-1 and B-2 visas, and could be considered a breach of an applicant's privacy”, said Dinesh M, a consultancy manager in Hyderabad. DHS, in the proposal for ESTA, has stated that they would make an applicant to disclose their social media on the ESTA. “The data element will require ESTA applicants to provide their social media from the last five years”, the proposal read. The data will also include the names of family members like parents, spouse, siblings and children, their date of birth, places of birth and residences, telephone numbers used by the family members and biometrics of the applicant, which will include facial data, fingerprint, iris information and DNA of the applicant.

Rahul Gandhi.....

"This is an interesting issue because I am certain that there would be full agreement between the government and us on this. This is not an ideological issue; everybody in the House agrees that air pollution — and the damage it is doing to our people — is something we should cooperate on," he said.

The Leader of the Opposition said it was important for the government to develop a plan to get rid of air pollution in cities. "We are more than happy to cooperate with the government to develop such a plan," Gandhi said. Rijju said the government, from day one, had made its position very clear it was ready to discuss and also to find a solution, taking along the suggestions from all the members, including the principal opposition party led by Rahul Gandhi.

Speaking to reporters outside Parliament, Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra said air pollution in major cities was worsening every year. "I completely agree, and I think everyone agrees. The government also said we should all discuss it and develop an action plan. It has gone on for too long, and the sit-

uation is worsening every year," she said. She said the issue of air pollution should also be discussed in Parliament and something concrete should come out of it. "If the government makes a good action plan and takes it forward, it will be great," she said.

Bill to Set Up Single..

Medical and law colleges will not be brought under its ambit. Funding, which is seen as the fourth vertical, is not proposed to be under the regulator so far. The autonomy for funding is proposed to be with the administrative ministry.

The proposed legislation, Viksit Bharat Shiksha Adhikshan Bill, is proposed to have three major roles — regulation, accreditation and setting professional standards. The Union Cabinet also approved the proposal for conducting Census of India 2027 at a cost of ₹11,718.24 crore. Union minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said that the Cabinet at a meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved the proposal to conduct the Census which will be the first digital exercise of its kind and approved ₹11,718 crore to conduct it. The Census would be conducted in two phases — house listing and housing census

from April to September 2026 and Population Enumeration (PE) from February 2027. “For Ladakh and snow-bound non-synchronous areas of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and states of Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand, the PE exercise shall be conducted in September, 2026,” Vaishnaw said, adding that the Census 2027 will also capture caste data electronically in the PE phase. About 30 lakh field functionaries will complete this exercise, using a mobile app for data collection. The process involves visiting each and every household and canvassing separate questionnaires for House listing and Housing Census and Population Enumeration. The enumerators, generally government teachers and appointed by the State Governments, will be doing the field work of Census in addition to their regular duties. Union home minister Amit Shah said the outcome of the Census 2027 would serve as the new compass for development, mirroring India's latest population data with more accuracy. In a message posted on X, he said, “The precision in data will accelerate Modi Ji's vision of delivering the benefits of good governance and development to

citizens of every demographic denomination, making the slogan of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas' a grand reality of New India in the Amrit Kaal.”

Worry Over 9.....

Referring to a Supreme Court verdict on July 25, the association noted that the court recognised mental health as part of the right to life under Article 21 and issued 15 binding guidelines. These include mental-health policies, campus counselling systems, safety standards and mandatory registration of private coaching centres. Although the court directed the state to implement these guidelines by October 2025, the government did little beyond announcing a committee, the association said and warned that it may file a contempt petition in court if the directives are not enforced immediately.

Association president Shikharam Narahari said the round-table framed five urgent demands, including fixing institutional responsibility and offering an unconditional apology and compensation to families of students who died by suicide, enforcing a ‘Safety and Counselling Mandate’ providing qualified counselors, a 24×7 helpline.

FROM FRONT PAGE

CRIME

Plea Challenges Police Recruitment Rule

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A two judge panel of the Telangana High Court took on file a writ plea challenging the validity of Rule 15 introduced under para 6 of GO dated April 8, 2022, governing recruitment under the Telangana Police (Stipendiary Cadet Trainee) Rules. The panel comprising Chief Justice Aparesh Kumar Singh and Justice G.M. Mohiuddin was hearing a writ plea filed by Banoth Narendar challenging the adoption of the amended rule and its implementation by the Telangana State Level Police Re-

cruitment Board in the ongoing recruitment process for 15,644 posts. Counsel contended that the operation of the rule has resulted in a large number of vacancies remaining unfilled despite the availability of eligible candidates. Counsel for the petitioner argued that carry-forward of such vacancies to a future notification was contrary to the law laid down by the Supreme Court, which mandates that non-joining vacancies must be offered to the next meritorious eligible candidate. The panel granted the state two weeks to file its response.

Judge slams colleges holding certificates

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Justice Surepalli Nanda strongly condemned the growing practice of educational institutions withholding students' original certificates to force payment of alleged financial dues. The judge directed Alhores Girls Junior College to immediately issue the consolidated marks memo of a student whose certificate was allegedly withheld over a demand for ₹75,000. The judge held that withholding academic certificates was impermissible in law and that institutions cannot retain them under any pretext. The judge was

dealing with a writ petition filed by P.V. Amarender Reddy, who said his daughter Pargi Shriya Reddy completed her Intermediate course with 98 per cent marks and that all fees had been paid. Despite this, the college demanded an additional amount for issuing the long memo required for higher-education counselling. Though most certificates were returned during the case, the long memo continued to be withheld, with the college insisting on payment. Relying on earlier rulings of the Telangana High Court, Justice Nanda reiterated that academic certificates are the property of student.

HC sets aside deletion of five voter names

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Justice T. Madhavi Devi of Telangana High Court set aside the deletion of five women voters from the electoral rolls of Madanapuram, Chintapalli mandal, Nalgonda district. The judge was hearing writ petitions filed by former sarpanch Uduthala Akhila and four others challenging the action of the tahsildar-cum-election officer in

deleting their names on the ground that they were married and allegedly residing at their matrimonial homes. The petitioners would contend that they continue to reside in Madanapuram and that their voter identity cards and other records reflect the same. It was contended that Akhila served as sarpanch from 2019 to 2024 and executed development works in the village, demonstrating continued residence. The

State Election Commission, opposing the pleas, argued that the names were removed after an enquiry based on a complaint, and that the petitioners were found not to be "ordinarily resident". It was also argued that an appellate remedy under the Representation of People Act was available. The judge observed that marriage did not automatically sever a woman's residence or connection with her native village and held

that deletion of names solely on the basis of marital status was arbitrary, particularly when the petitioners had not enrolled elsewhere. Considering the urgency in view of the upcoming local body elections and noting that the statutory remedy would not be efficacious in the present circumstances, the judge allowed the writ petitions and directed restoration of the petitioners' names to the rolls.

Plea Questions Poll Quota

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Justice T. Madhavi Devi of the Telangana High Court on Tuesday referred to a division bench, a batch of writ petitions challenging the reservation roster notified for the gram panchayat elections. The petitions were filed by residents of villages where the sarpanch and ward members seats in panchayats had been reserved for the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes or Backward Classes communities despite the admitted absence, or extremely negligible presence, of such communities. The petitioners said that the state government had reserved

the posts by taking the population of the ST and SC communities as per 2011 Census and BC reservations on the basis of SEEP-2024 data. In the process, the seats had been reserved in villages where there was either no population of concerned community, or they were present in negligible numbers. They feared that such seats would remain vacant. The writ petitioners sought reconsideration of the reservations in these villages and the holding of elections on the basis of current population. The state, represented by special government pleader Rahul Reddy, submitted that for reservations.

HC sets aside Tribunal order on RTC staffer

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Justice Namavarapu Rajeshwar Rao of the Telangana High Court set aside an award passed by the Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Court, Warangal in a long-pending service dispute concerning disciplinary action against an APSRTC cleaner. The judge was hearing a writ plea filed by the depot manager, APSRTC, Narasampet challenging the tribunal's 2007 award modifying the punishment imposed on the em-

ployee. It was contended that the tribunal intervened despite proven misconduct and despite the employee raising the dispute after an unexplained delay of over 16 years. The record showed that the charges related to the employee leaving night-shift duty without permission in 1988 and failing to sweep several vehicles. A domestic enquiry was conducted and punishment of deferment of one annual increment for two years was imposed in August 1988.

Murder accused get bail



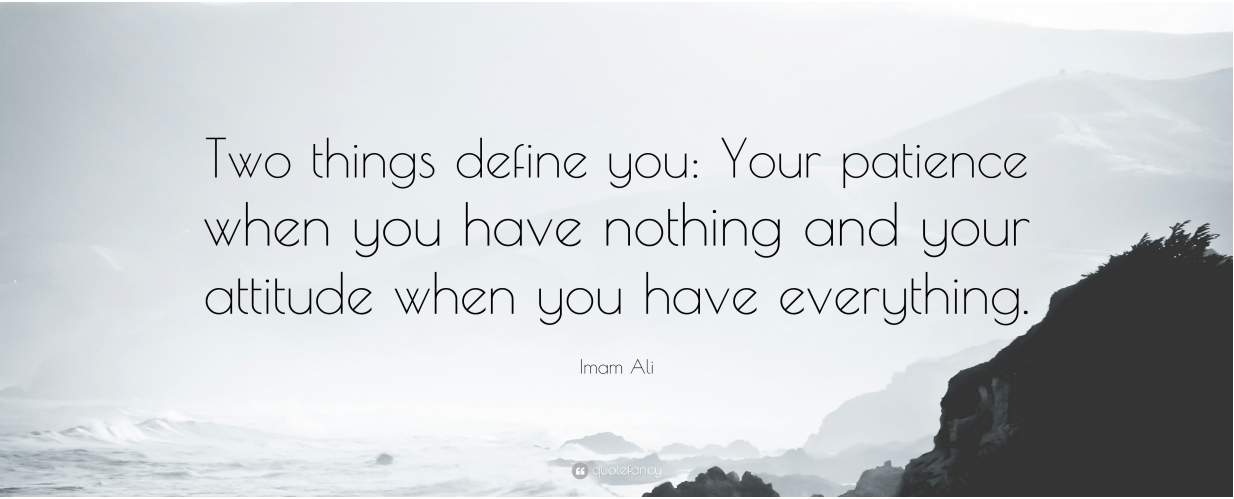
HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana High Court on Tuesday granted bail to three accused facing trial in connection with the alleged murder of a youth following his inter-caste marriage with the sister of two of the accused. The judge was hearing criminal petitions filed by Kotla Naveen, Kotla

Vamshi and Bairu Mahesh. The accused are charged with causing death with intent, criminal acts done with common intention, and aggravated offences alleged to have been committed against a Scheduled Caste person under the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989. According to the prosecution, the deceased married a girl

against the wishes of her family, following which he allegedly received threats from her brothers. The complainant, the deceased's father, lodged a report after his son was found dead near a pond at the outskirts of Pillalamarri. The petitioners were arrested on January 29 and have remained in judicial custody since then. Senior counsel Vinod Kumar Deshpande appearing for the accused argued that the petitioners were falsely implicated solely on account of the inter-caste marriage and family hostility. It was contended that the case rested on circumstantial evidence and alleged extra-judicial confes-

sions, with no direct material linking them to the death. The defence contended that the deceased had multiple criminal cases pending against him, creating several possible motives unrelated to the accused. Senior counsel also argued that the victim and her husband were in a relationship for over a few years and therefore charges of honour killing were baseless. It was argued that since the charge-sheet was filed and the investigation completed, further custodial detention amounts to pre-trial punishment. After hearing submissions, the judge enlarged the petitioners on bail.



Two things define you: Your patience when you have nothing and your attitude when you have everything.

Imam Ali

EDITORIAL

AS INDIA, RUSSIA DEEPEN TIES; US & EUROPE WATCH

KARNATAKA
Wakeup telangana

With India's strategic trajectory swinging to a post-Trump 2.0 realignment, the visit of the Russian President Vladimir Putin assumed a larger-than-life dimension. Thanks to US tariffs and sanctions, it is a very old, time-tested friendship with Russia that India leans on now as its calculus of national interest points it squarely in this direction. What should normally have been a routine annual summit and bilateral between two friends had to become a big show of optics in quick hugs and another episode of limousine diplomacy — in an interesting choice of a "made in India" car — as the US was bound to have been watching Mr Putin in

India with added interest. The warm and genuine welcome may even have seduced the guest to speak extensively of peace in Ukraine after Mr Trump's peace overtures had been rebuffed in a stern reply from the Russian President asking Ukraine to withdraw from the Donbas failing which it would seize it by force, no matter how long it takes. India's position may have been nearer to neutral on the Ukraine war, which may not have pleased the US and the West but Prime Minister Narendra Modi's declaration that India was on the side of peace may have set the tone for Mr Putin to speak about the war in New Delhi. A tri-services guard of honour at the Rashtrapati Bhavan and a visit to the memorial of the apostle of

peace were formal events that stressed the importance of the state visit, but the host country's focus was more on pursuing its national interests that trump everything else, particularly in the face of shifting geopolitics. The ballooning trade deficit in the region of \$60 billion-plus, owing to large purchases of Russian oil but which tapered off to near nil this month after US sanctions, the need to modernise India's forces with more Russian assistance by way of supply as well as technology transfer and finding avenues for Indian workforce in view of abnormal restrictions the Trump regime has been imposing were addressed in the bilateral meeting culminating in valuable memoranda of agreements.



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Care for your skin this winter with California Almonds

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Dry, dull, and sensitive skin is one of winter’s most common concerns, but the solution goes beyond creams and lotions. According to Ritika Samaddar, Regional Head, Dietetics at Max Healthcare, Delhi, nourishing the skin from within through the right nutrition is the most effective way to maintain healthy, glowing skin during colder months. Foods rich in protein, healthy fats, vitamin E, and omega-3 fatty acids—especially California Almonds—play a crucial role in protecting skin from winter damage. Explaining the root cause, Samaddar notes that winter dryness is not just a cosmetic issue but also a nutritional one. Cold air strips moisture from the skin, weakening its natural barrier and making it prone to flakiness, irritation, and sensitivity. While topical skincare provides temporary relief, consistent intake of nutrient-dense



foods helps restore hydration and resilience at a deeper level. California Almonds stand out as a winter essential due to their exceptional nutrient profile. They are among the richest natural sources of vitamin E, a powerful antioxidant that protects skin cells from damage caused by environmental stress. Vitamin E also strengthens the

skin’s moisture barrier, helping it retain hydration, remain smooth, and maintain elasticity. Its anti-aging properties further support skin firmness and reduce the appearance of fine lines that often become more visible in winter. In addition, almonds are packed with healthy monounsaturated fats that act as natural internal

moisturisers. These fats improve skin elasticity, prevent excessive dryness, and help the skin look plump and supple even in harsh weather conditions. Almonds also provide high-quality protein along with riboflavin and zinc—nutrients essential for skin repair and renewal. Together, they help reduce dullness, restore natural glow, and support overall

skin strength. Research indicates that regular almond consumption may improve facial skin tone and reduce the appearance of wrinkles over time. Highlighting the gut–skin connection, Samaddar adds that almonds contribute to better gut health, which in turn helps reduce inflammation and breakouts. This benefit is particularly relevant in winter, when digestive issues are more common. She recommends consuming California Almonds daily, preferably in the morning, to enhance nutrient absorption and maximize skin benefits. This winter, achieving healthy, glowing skin does not require expensive treatments or complicated routines. Simple dietary choices can make a significant difference. With their rich combination of vitamins, healthy fats, and antioxidants, California Almonds offer a natural, effective, and delicious way to care for your skin throughout the season.

Three-Fourth of \$5.75 Bn Mexican Exports to Be Hit by Tariffs Autos

The tariff hikes target key sectors such as automobiles, auto parts, textiles, steel, plastics and clothing, with most products moving from earlier tariff levels of 0-15 per cent to about 35 per cent, and a few strategic items—especially steel and auto—jumping to the maximum 50 per cent duty



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Nearly 75 per cent of India’s \$5.75 billion exports to Mexico are set to be impacted sharply following steep tariff hikes, with duties rising from 0-15 per cent to as high as 50 per cent, fundamentally altering India’s access to the Mexican market in FY2025. According to the Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI), the new tariff regime targets key Indian export sectors, making many products commercially unviable. The automobile and auto components sector, India’s largest export segment to Mexico valued at \$1.9 billion, will be among the worst hit, facing a prohibitive 50 per cent duty. Steel exports are also severely affected. Iron and steel shipments worth \$128.44 million will see tariffs jump from 10-15 per cent to 35 per cent on long products, while flat steel products will attract

a 50 per cent duty, effectively shutting Indian steel exporters out of the Mexican market. Additionally, articles of iron or steel, valued at \$176.87 million, will face duty hikes from 15 per cent to 35 per cent. The electronics and machinery sector faces a similarly grim outlook. Smartphone exports, which stood at \$284.53 million, will now be subject to 35 per cent tariffs, up from zero earlier, making Indian handsets largely uncompetitive. Industrial machinery exports, the second-largest export category at \$547.99 million, will see duties increase from 5-10 per cent to 25-35 per cent. Aluminium exports worth \$383.28 million will also face tariff hikes to 25-35 per cent, compared to the earlier 5-10 per cent. The textiles and garments sector is expected to lose competitiveness as well. Garments and made-ups, valued at \$245.90 million, will see tariffs rise from 20-25 per cent to 35 per

cent, while textile exports worth \$149.94 million will face increased duties of 25 per cent, up from 10-15 per cent. These changes place Indian exporters at a disadvantage compared to suppliers from countries with free trade agreements with Mexico. Other sectors are not spared. Organic chemicals, accounting for \$391.12 million in exports, will face tariffs rising to 15-25 per cent. Plastics and plastic articles, worth \$136.69 million, will see duties increase to 25 per cent, disproportionately impacting MSME exporters. Even agricultural exports such as coffee, tea and spices, valued at \$36.45 million, will now attract 15 per cent tariffs, up from 0-5 per cent. Overall, the sweeping tariff hikes significantly undermine India’s export competitiveness in Mexico, affecting a wide range of industries and threatening billions of dollars in trade.

Young Innovators Use AI to Transform Health at Samsung SFT 2025

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Samsung Solve for Tomorrow (SFT) 2025, Samsung’s flagship education programme in partnership with IIT Delhi, spotlighted how young innovators across India are using AI to transform health, hygiene and wellbeing, proving that technology today is about access, dignity and real-world impact. Under the theme “Future of Health, Hygiene and Wellbeing,” thousands of students designed AI-first, human-

centred solutions addressing sanitation, preventive care, nutrition, emotional wellbeing and assistive healthcare, ensuring better health outcomes are treated as a right rather than a privilege. Among the four national winners, Paraspeak emerged as the theme winner, developed by 16-year-old Pranet Khetan from Gurugram—an AI-powered compact device that converts impaired speech into clear, fluent playback, including Hindi, inspired by individuals with speech disorders and supported by

India’s first dataset for dysarthric Hindi. Other standout teams demonstrated equally practical and inclusive innovation: Alchemist from Andhra Pradesh built an AI platform using deep learning to detect subclinical silicosis at an early stage; BRHM from Uttar Pradesh created a low-cost, multi-articulated bionic hand to restore mobility; Hear Bright from Delhi developed AI-powered glasses that convert speech into text to support the hearing impaired; and Pink Brigadiers from

Odisha introduced a predictive AI app enabling women to self-check breast health securely at home. Beyond health and wellbeing, SFT 2025 also recognised NextPlay.AI, an AI sports coaching platform, Percevia’s AI-powered glasses, and Prithvi Rakshak, a gamified sustainability app. To help ideas scale, winners received up to ₹1 crore in incubation support at IIT Delhi, along with ₹1 lakh grants, Goodwill and Young Innovator Awards, and Samsung Galaxy Z Flip

smartphones for the top 20 teams. With increased participation from Tier-II and Tier-III cities, alumni returning as mentors, access to IIT Delhi’s FITT Labs, and a strong focus on ethical, empathetic design thinking, SFT 2025 reflects a growing, decentralised innovation ecosystem that has engaged 2.9 million young innovators across 68 countries since 2010, shaping socially responsible problem solvers for India’s future.

HYD.ART 2025 to Open on December 19, Bringing India’s Finest Art to Hyderabad

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Hyderabad is set to host its largest curated art and cultural showcase, HYD.ART 2025, from December 19 to 21 at EON Hyderabad, Nanakramguda. The three-day extravaganza will present an expansive celebration of Indian art, featuring iconic masters, contemporary voices, folk traditions, and immersive cultural experiences. The headline attraction is a Masters of India Gallery, showcasing rare and significant works by legendary modern artists M.F. Husain and S.H. Raza. Another major highlight is “Keerthanam – A Tribute to Telugu Legends,” a special curation honouring revered yesteryear Telugu artists and their enduring contributions to Indian art. Curated by renowned curator Annapurna Madipadiga in collaboration with Hasan, Founder of HYD.ART, the festival brings together over 200 artists from Hyderabad and across India. The showcase includes 30 leading contemporary artists from Hyderabad, 30 emerging artists from across the country, curated galleries, and a vibrant presentation of three generations of Mithila artists, tracing the evolution of this celebrated folk art form. Addressing the media, the



Annapurna Madipadiga (2nd from Right), Show Director, HYD.ART; sharing notes about an art piece, as (L-R) R. Naveen Kumar, CMO & Business Head, Navanaami Projects Pvt. Ltd.; Venkat Naveen Gadde, Founder & Managing Director, Navanaami Projects Pvt. Ltd.; & Hasan, Founder, HYD.ART; look on at a press conference today at EkChitra Art Gallery, Kavuri Hills; hosted to announce about HYD.ART 2025, the biggest curated art showcase of Indian Master’s & revered Telugu legends, to be held between December 19 and 21, 2025.

organisers said HYD.ART 2025 aims to fill a long-felt gap by creating a world-class art platform in Hyderabad, comparable to major festivals in Mumbai and Delhi, while strongly supporting local talent and giving them national and international exposure. Presented by the Navanaami Group at its landmark property EON Hyderabad, the event reflects the belief that great cities are shaped by culture as much as infrastructure.

Beyond exhibitions, HYD.ART 2025 will host panel discussions, artist talks, documentaries on lost art forms, live demonstrations, and hands-on workshops, along with a special book release of 150 Mahatma Gandhi drawings by noted cartoonist Shankar Pamarthy. From seasoned collectors to first-time visitors, HYD.ART 2025 promises inspiration, learning, and a powerful glimpse into India’s evolving art landscape.

LVPEI IVR Hosts Joyful Inclusive Day-Out for Visually Impaired Children

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Around 400 children with visual impairment, along with their siblings and parents from the Institute for Vision Rehabilitation (IVR) of the L V Prasad Eye Institute (LVPEI), came together for a joyful day-out at Wild Waters, a 30-acre amusement theme park in Shankarpally. The event highlighted inclusion, confidence and togetherness, reflecting IVR’s mission of empowering children beyond the limits of medical intervention. The day-long outing was designed to ensure safe, inclusive and engaging experiences for every child. Games, rides and water activities were thoughtfully adapted to different sensory needs, allowing children to participate confidently while parents and siblings remained close by for encouragement and support. Separate lawns hosted group games curated by



Children participating in games at the fun camp organized by the Institute for Vision Rehabilitation, L V Prasad Eye Institute.

IVR’s rehabilitation professionals, promoting teamwork, interaction and fun. The celebrations began earlier at the LVPEI campus with breakfast followed by a vibrant cultural programme presented by the children. Their performances filled the campus with enthusiasm and set the tone for the day. Dr Tarjani Dave, Head of the Ocularistry Laboratory at LVPEI, attended as the special guest and motivated the chil-

dren with words of affirmation, leading them to repeat together, “I’m strong, I’m capable, I’m beautiful, I’m unlimited.” The moment symbolised empowerment and self-belief, core values nurtured at IVR. For parents, particularly mothers, the outing offered more than recreation. It created a supportive space to connect, share experiences and build lasting bonds. “Rehabilitation is not only about skills and independ-

ence, but also about emotional strength and community,” said Dr Beula Christy, Head of the Institute for Vision Rehabilitation at LVPEI, highlighting the importance of such shared moments. Throughout the day, families explored rides, enjoyed meals at the park and embraced an atmosphere of warmth and acceptance. As the event concluded, it left behind renewed confidence, stronger connections and cherished memories. The programme was made possible through the generous support of individual donors. The Institute for Vision Rehabilitation at LVPEI remains a unique, integrated facility dedicated to maximizing functional vision, fostering independence and restoring dignity, reaffirming that while vision may be impaired, the human spirit remains boundless.

Akhanda 2 Review: A Boyapati Srinu Film Strictly For Balayya Fans

Nandamuri Balakrishna AKA NBK AKA Balayya is a Telugu star who is known for films that have high-octane action, powerful dialogues, strong characterisation, and mythic or historical elements. Akhanda, directed by Boyapati Srinu which released in 2021, became a superhit thanks to his fans because it all these key elements in abundance. In Akhanda, Balayya played the roles of twin brothers Akhanda Rudra Sikandar Aghora and Murali Krishna who get separated at birth. Fast forward to 2025, the Boyapati Srinu-Balayya team is back with Akhanda 2: Thaandavam, the fantasy-action sequel to the 2021 film with new actors and music by Thaman S. In Akhanda 2: Thaandavam, Balakrishna once again dons the dual roles of an older Akhanda Rudra Sikandar Aghora and older Murali Krishna with a plot that has now moved to international territories. The movie begins with director Boyapati Srinu shouting action and we are quickly transported to the Indo-Tibet border where there is a war brewing.



A Chinese general (Sangay Tsheltrim) is plotting ways to wreak havoc on India and he wants to find India's weakness to exploit. He learns that to hit India at its root will destroy the country and what is its root? India's faith in God and Sanatana Dharma. The neighbouring evil forces believe that by destroying India's spiritual core and cosmic balance, they will weaken the country and make it crumble. They launch a bio-war during the Maha Kumbh Mela where crores of devotees gather to take a dip in the holy Ganga. What results is widespread deaths, calamity and national crisis like never-seen-before. The DRDO is called in to develop an antidote for a deadly virus and Murali

Krishna's daughter, Janani (Harshaali Malhotra), who is at the forefront of this vital research, takes centre stage. Janani is aided and mentored by an army officer (Samyuktha) who believes that saving the country is more important than saving one's own life and she does exactly that. As Akhanda Rudra Sikandar Aghora, Balayya takes on the evil forces by embodying fierce divine energy as a powerful supernatural Aghora warrior. He confronts these emerging threats, which include gangsters, sorcerers and armies, to protect humanity and uphold dharma (righteousness). This role is central to the film's theme and he is portrayed as a cosmic guardian figure whose presence is steeped in mythic and spiri-

tual undertones, as we see from the powerful Shiva mantras that are chanted and played in the BGM. Throughout the film he delivers powerful dialogues about Sanatana Dharma and Indian cultural greatness, and he not only gets into fights physically but he also takes on the symbolic forces that try to break the country's spiritual core. On the other hand, as Hindupur MLA Murali Krishna, Balakrishna essays a role that is very much aligned to his real-life position of MLA. His character mouths dialogues that add the important layer of political and social relevance to the narrative. However, the role of Murali Krishna, who displays emotion and social responsibility in Akhanda 2, is quite limited as is his screen presence. On the whole, the film's narrative weaves high-octane action, mythic symbolism, ritualistic elements, and Balakrishna's commanding on-screen presence into a story of destiny, devotion, and cosmic struggle. But the movie doesn't follow any logic and it's only the spiritual aspect that drives the movie forward rather than the story itself.

Dhurandhar Eyes Rs 300 Crore By Weekend Despite "Revenue Loss" From No Gulf Release: Experts

On December 11, Dhurandhar earned approximately Rs 27 crore, taking its total collection to Rs 207.25 crore

MUMBAI Wakeup telangana

It's been a week since Aditya Dhar's Dhurandhar hit the theatres, and it has been a dream run so far at the box office. On Day 7, the spy thriller made a roaring entry into the Rs 200-crore club, and as per trade analyst experts, there's no stopping lead star Ranveer Singh, Dhurandhar, or the man of the hour, Akshaye Khanna. But the film is not releasing in Gulf countries, including the UAE, a massive market for Indian films, owing to concerns over its anti-Pakistani content. But will that impact its box office revenue? NDTV spoke to trade analysts Taran Adarsh and Sreedhar Pillai about Dhurandhar box office analysis and if the release of Telugu film Akhanda 2 and Rajinikanth's re-release of Padayappa on his 75th birthday on Friday could slow down its juggernaut at the box office. On Dhurandhar Not Releasing In Gulf Nations Taran Adarsh weighs in on whether Dhurandhar not being released in the Gulf nations is a major setback for the film. He says, "I'm not denying that there's a revenue loss, but the film is doing so well across the board that they might feel the pinch. If this film had been released then, it would have been great; it would have only added to the revenue." Taran Adarsh shares that Dhurandhar was made on a budget of Rs 300 crore, including both parts. The post-credits of the first part surprised the audience with the release date of Dhurandhar Part 2, set to hit the screens on March 19, 2026. Dhurandhar has sur-



passed Rs 200 crore in its first week itself, which is more than half of its total budget for both parts. Breaking it down, Taran Adarsh shares, "It's huge. Thursday is higher than even Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. It is unstoppable - just imagine the kind of business as of now." Asked if the film's business can be compared to 2025's highest grossing Hindi films Chhaava (India net collection: Rs 601.54 crore) and Saiyaara (India net collection: Rs 329.2 crore), the trade expert says it's "a bit too early" to compare Dhurandhar to the two films. He continues, "If you have to compare it to Chhaava, then maybe in terms of numbers. Let's see where it goes because I think it should cross Rs 300 crore by the weekend itself in India." Nandamuri Balakrishna's Akhanda 2 was postponed just hours before its scheduled release on December 5 and has now hit the theatres today, December 12. Sharing insights about the South, trade expert Sreedhar Pillai informs that Ranveer Singh's Dhurandhar is doing very well in Chennai. He shares that it's been a while since a Hindi film has received such a response. With no direct opposition, the second week should continue its glorious run. In terms of Akhanda 2's release, he says, "It is a Telugu film, and Akhanda

2's more of an opposition would be Rajinikanth's re-release of Padayappa. But I think Dhurandhar has its own audience, and Hindi cinema has its own audience. Of course, Tamil cinema is number 1 in Chennai city, but Dhurandhar has its audience. You should note that the run time of 3 hours 34 minutes was not looked upon kindly in the beginning. But now I think people have got used to it." Taran Adarsh adds, "Of course, for the South audience, Balakrishna is massive. It's going to take a fantastic start, but Dhurandhar will also be holding its post for the Hindi audience." Both Sreedhar Pillai and Taran Adarsh credit the making of the film for its phenomenal success. Controversy over its content and its reviews or not, both trade experts say that, at the end of the day, it is about the content. Sreedhar Pillai reflects, "People are liking the film. Normally, films that are, let us say, what the critics have been saying are Pakistan-bashing and all - South is an entirely different market. Here, the stardom of Ranveer Singh, Sanjay Dutt, and especially Akshaye Khanna has made it a very big hit. It is running because of the content rather than the controversy surrounding the film. Of course, the controversies will fuel their own box office."

NTR, Prashanth Neel Film Shoot From December 13

MUMBAI Wakeup telangana

Dismissing all rumours of differences between reigning star Jr NTR and director Prashanth Neel, a reliable source confirms that the much-awaited film will begin shooting this week. "The actor and director are fully in sync, and the shoot starts on December 13 at Ramoji Film City on a specially erected set," the source reveals. The team also denies speculation about Bollywood actress Kajol playing a key role. "Kajol has nothing to do with our film," the source clarifies, adding that NTR will be paired with Ru-



kumi Vasanth of Kantara 2 fame to bring romantic flavour to this action-centric drama. According to the source, NTR took a brief break from Dragon to build muscle for a rugged new

look. "He has to portray a larger-than-life character. Prashanth Neel has designed an invincible avatar that will elevate NTR's action image and offer fans a unique, high-voltage saga," the

source adds. In an interesting twist, Prashanth Neel—known for largely avoiding songs in films like Salaar—is reportedly set to break his own pattern. "He is planning a special number with NTR, and a top heroine will be roped in. The aim is to create a chartbuster on the lines of Oo Antava from Pushpa. Such songs add glamour and mass appeal to star-driven films. Though Neel rarely uses item numbers, he has incorporated a few in the past." The shoot schedule for this number is expected to span two to three months, with the film promising a blend of scale, style, and spectacle.

ETV Win Introduces Dolby Vision and Dolby Atmos, Elevating Telugu OTT Streaming

HDYERABAD Wakeup telangana

ETV Win, one of the fastest-growing Telugu OTT platforms, has taken a major technological leap by bringing Dolby Vision and Dolby Atmos to its streaming experience, making it one of the first regional OTT platforms to offer truly immersive, cinematic entertainment across devices. Over 20 titles on ETV Win are now available in Dolby formats, including marquee titles Little Hearts and Constable Kanakam in Dolby Atmos, while the flagship film KA becomes the first Telugu title to stream in both Dolby Vision and Dolby Atmos. The upgrade enables viewers to experience richer visuals, deeper contrast, and multidimensional sound—bringing powerful Telugu storytelling to life at home and on the go.



As the digital destination for popular titles such as #90s – A Middle-Class Biopic, Committee Kurrolu, Veeranjaneyulu Vi-hara Yatra, Anaganaga, AIR and Little Hearts, ETV Win continues to strengthen its appeal with a blend of blockbuster hits, nostalgic narratives, and contemporary stories. KA has already received strong audience appreciation for its enhanced audio-visual presentation. With Dolby Atmos, viewers can feel the intensity of action sequences and the subtlety of emo-

tional moments through immersive sound, while Dolby Vision enhances visual depth with lifelike colours, textures, and contrast. To simplify discovery, ETV Win has introduced a dedicated Dolby rail on its homepage, spotlighting content available in Dolby Vision and/or Dolby Atmos. The premium Dolby experience is available to Premium Plus subscribers (₹699 annual pack) on supported devices, including Android and iOS smartphones, Android TVs, and connected

streaming devices. ETV Win is also setting content benchmarks, producing 15 original films and series in 2025—the highest among OTT platforms—alongside acquiring major theatrical releases and curating a rich library of 500+ Telugu classic golden films. "We believe technology can amplify storytelling. Integrating Dolby Vision and Dolby Atmos is a significant step in enhancing viewer experience and setting new benchmarks for Telugu streaming," said Saikrishna, Head – ETV Win OTT. Echoing this, Sameer Seth, Director – Marketing India, Dolby Laboratories, said, "With Dolby Vision and Dolby Atmos on ETV Win, Telugu audiences can now enjoy their favourite stories exactly as creators imagined—deeper, richer, and more immersive."

Telangana Skaters Shine at 63rd National Roller Skating Championship 2025

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Telangana skaters delivered an outstanding performance at the 63rd National Roller Skating Championship 2025, held in Visakhapatnam from December 5 to 15, winning multiple medals across roller freestyle and skateboarding events and bringing laurels to the state. Leading the medal tally, Mokshit Ram Reddy clinched Gold and Silver medals in the Roller Freestyle Street and Park events. Raddhe Loya (14) added to Telangana's success by securing a Silver Medal in the Roller Freestyle Park event, marking her third national medal. Chinthala Sanvi won Silver in the Skateboarding Park event, while Kamenani Shaunik Reddy



claimed Silver in the Skateboarding Street category. Raddhe Loya's achievement stands out as a story of consistent excellence. Currently studying Intermediate and training at AK Homes, she has maintained an impressive national record—Gold at the 60th National Championship (Bengaluru, 2022),

Silver at the 61st National Championship (Chandigarh, 2023), and now Silver at the 63rd edition in Visakhapatnam. Her daily fitness and technical training at AK Homes is guided by Ashwani Kumar Jaiswal, father of Dr. Naina Jaiswal, the renowned international table tennis player. All medalists represented

the Roller Skating Association of Telangana (RSAT) and trained at the Sports Authority of Telangana, LB Stadium, highlighting the state's growing strength in action sports and structured athlete development. Officials and coaches praised the athletes for their discipline, perseverance, and competitive spirit, noting that their performances reflect years of focused training and institutional support. With these remarkable results, Telangana continues to emerge as a strong force in national roller sports. The skaters' success has inspired young athletes across the state, and the sporting fraternity extends hearty congratulations, wishing them continued growth and many more podium finishes in the years ahead.

Second food poisoning incident on one day, 60 students fall ill

Two separate food poisoning incidents were reported at different government schools in Hyderabad on Friday, December 12, raising serious concerns about food safety precautions.

At Mandal Parishad Primary School, Chandra Naik Thanda, Madhapur, 102 students were served their mid-day meal by NGO Akshaya Patra. They were also served a seviyan kheer as a sweet, which reportedly caused 44 students to suffer vomiting.

At about 3:00 pm, they were rushed to the Kon-dapur government hospital for treatment. Six students were later shifted to Rainbow Hospital in Gachibowli for better treatment. According to the Madhapur police, all the admitted students are out of danger. Earlier in the day, 16 students from the minority residential school in Bagh Lingampally were admitted to the King Koti government hospital after they complained of vomiting and abdominal pain following Thursday's dinner.

16 minority residential school students fall ill after dinner



In yet another case of food poisoning in government-run schools in Telangana, 16 students of the minority residential school in Bagh Lingampally reportedly fell ill after having dinner on Thursday, December 11.

Students were admitted to the King Koti government hospital after complaining of vomiting and abdominal pain. Speaking to reporters, one of the doctors stated that one student has experienced moderate dehydration while the remaining are in a stable condition.

On November 1, as many as 54 students of the BC boys' welfare hostel located in Dharmavaram village of Itikyala mandal in Jogulamba Gadwal district were hospitalised with complaints of vomiting and stomach-ache after consuming dinner. The Telangana Human Rights Commission (TGHRC), headed by former judge of the High Court Justice Shameem Akther, also took cognisance of the incident and directed the state's Chief Secretary to conduct an enquiry and submit a comprehensive report by November 24.

Later on November 10, seventeen students of a government school in Karimnagar's Jammikunta region fell ill after eating their midday meal.

Konda Surekha faces non-bailable warrant in KTR defamation case

The Special Court for Public Representatives at Nampally on Thursday, December 11, has issued a Non-Bailable Warrant (NBW) against Telangana Minister Konda Surekha. The warrant was issued as part of an order passed over Surekha's absence from proceedings in a defamation case filed against her by Bharat Bharat Rashtra Samithi working president KT Rama Rao (KTR).<

The Nampally Court earlier this year directed the police to register a criminal case against Konda Surekha. The matter began last year in October when while addressing the media, Konda Surekha made controversial statements against KTR, accusing him of being the reason behind actors Samantha and Naga Chaitanya's divorce.

According to the BRS, the matter was listed for commencement of trial on Friday. However, she failed to appear and the magistrate took a serious view of the fact that she remained absent. A statement from KTR's office stated that she has been absent without furnishing any valid justification or filing a petition seeking exemption from personal appearance.

Telangana Congress collects over 10 L signatures against 'vote chori'

The collected documents were dispatched from Gandhi Bhavan in Hyderabad to New Delhi on Wednesday night in a specially arranged vehicle.

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

As part of a nation-wide campaign against alleged 'vote chori' (vote theft), the Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) has successfully collected more than 10 lakh signatures from citizens across the state. The mass signature drive, conducted under the guidance of TPCC president B Mahesh Kumar Goud, was completed over the past few days and aimed at raising public

awareness about electoral irregularities.

The collected documents were dispatched from Gandhi Bhavan in Hyderabad to New Delhi on Wednesday night in a specially arranged vehicle. The consolidated signature papers from Telangana are scheduled to be formally submitted at the All India Congress Committee (AICC) headquarters on December 13.

The initiative is part of a larger national effort by the AICC,



which plans to showcase signatures gathered from across India during a massive rally at Delhi's Ramlila Maidan on December 14. Senior Congress leaders are expected to attend the event in large numbers. Following the rally, the Congress leadership will meet President

Droupadi Murmu to formally hand over the petitions, urging her to ensure that elections across the country are conducted in a free, transparent, and fair manner.

Through this campaign, the Congress has highlighted alleged large-scale electoral irregularities, including wrongful deletions from voter lists and the misuse of electoral machinery. The party claims that such practices have systematically disenfranchised ordinary citizens, par-

ticularly those from marginalized communities, and undermine the credibility of elected governments.

Rahul Gandhi has been at the forefront of this initiative, repeatedly calling for full transparency in electronic voting machines (EVMs) and voter lists. According to Congress leaders, restoring trust in the electoral process is essential for strengthening democracy and ensuring that every eligible voter can exercise their franchise

without fear or obstruction.

The TPCC's signature drive reflects growing public concern over electoral integrity and demonstrates the party's commitment to holding the government accountable. By mobilizing citizens statewide and submitting their petitions at the national level, the Congress aims to reinforce the importance of fair and transparent elections as the cornerstone of India's democracy.

Hyderabad to experience disruptions in drinking water supply

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Several areas in Hyderabad will experience disruptions in the supply of drinking water as a result of a major leakage in the 1500 mm diameter PSC pumping main pipeline of the Manjeera Phase 2 at Rudraram.

Affected areas include operations and maintenance numbers 6, 9, 17, 22, and namely Beeram-

guda, Ameenpur, Miyapur, Deepthi Sri Nagar, KPHB Housing Board, Nizampet, Hydher Nagar, Moosapet and Erragadda. Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWSSB) officials are carrying out emergency repair works, which are expected to be completed by the morning of December 13, after which the supply will be restored.

Sajjanar warns transgender groups against extortion

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Taking serious note of rising complaints of harassment and forced money collection, City Police Commissioner VC Sajjanar on Friday cautioned transgender groups that strict action will be taken against anyone resorting to extortion.

Addressing a meeting with around 250 transgender persons at CESS,



Ameerpet, the Commissioner said the police have received several grievances about groups visiting homes during auspicious occasions and demanding large sums.

"Forced collections and harassment of citizens are unacceptable. Anyone tak-

ing the law into their own hands will face jail," he warned.

Sajjanar also highlighted internal disputes within the community that have led to clashes and, in some cases, fatalities. He assured that while the police will act firmly on violations, they will support those seeking to live with dignity.

ADGP (Women Safety Wing) Charu Sinha urged transgender persons to ap-

proach the Pride Place support system for any grievance. She said the police are committed to ensuring their safety and social integration.

Rajender, Additional Director of Transgender Welfare, noted that Telangana has nearly 50,000 transgender persons and encouraged them to obtain government ID cards to benefit from welfare schemes and emerging job opportunities.

Phone tapping case: Ex-SIB chief Prabhakar Rao surrenders before police

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Former Telangana intelligence chief T Prabhakar Rao, accused in a phone-tapping case, surrendered before police here on Friday as per a Supreme Court directive, officials said.

Rao, former chief of the Telangana Special Intelligence Bureau (SIB) surrendered before the investigating officer at the Jubilee Hills police station here at 11 AM, as directed by the apex court.

A suspended DSP of the SIB is among four police officials who have been arrested by Hyderabad Police since March 2024 for allegedly erasing the intelligence information from various electronic gadgets as well as for alleged phone-tapping dur-



ing the previous BRS regime. They were subsequently granted bail.

The accused are part of the alleged conspiracy in which they "misused" the resources of SIB for political purposes by putting citizens from different walks of life under surveillance, police had said. Those named as accused in the case along with others had allegedly developed profiles of several persons unauthorisedly and were accused of monitoring

them clandestinely and illegally in SIB and using them in a partisan manner to favour a political party at the behest of some persons. They were also accused of conspiring in destroying the records to cause disappearance of evidence of their crimes, police had earlier said.

Rao's surrender on Friday came on the direction of the SC. On Thursday, a bench comprising justices B V Nagarathna and R Mahadevan said the order was passed for the purpose of further investigation into the offences against Rao. "We direct the petitioner to surrender before the Jubilee Hills police station and the investigating officer by 11.00 am tomorrow...the custodial interrogation to be done in accordance with law.

Activist seeks defined maps, boundaries of new GHMC limit

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

City-based researcher Srinivas Kodali on Friday, December 12, wrote to Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) commissioner RV Karnan seeking a map and defined boundaries of its new area. Last month the state government had approved the merger of 27 municipalities into the civic body, expanding its territory.

Kodali also objected to the way the GHMC was expanded without any defined boundaries, stating that it goes against the principles of map making. "As per the notification, the GHMC area, including the recently merged 27 ULBs, has been re-organised into 300 Election Wards under rule 8 of the Telangana Municipal Cor-

porations (Delimitation of Wards) Rules 1996. It would take at least a month for anyone to look at 300 ward boundaries even when a map of any kind with real defined boundaries is shared," he said in his letter to the GHMC. After the state government announced its decision and passed the order for GHMC's expansion, it gave a seven day period for anyone to bring forth objections and to give suggestions. Kodali also said that at least a month is needed for anyone to look at the new map. "The boundaries have been announced in no regular format, neither are the revenue survey numbers mentioned nor is there a list of latitudes or longitudes of the boundary clearly defined," he said in his objection to the GHMC commissioner.

As of new the GHMC area has 150 wards. A delimitation exercise had also been carried out earlier to redistribute the population in the GHMC area to make seats even in terms of voter before the 2015 civic body elections. With the expansion, the Greater Hyderabad area will go up from about 650 square kilometers to over 2000 sq kms, nearly triple in size. Many see this as a move by the ruling Congress to win the next GHMC elections as it currently is very weak in the Hyderabad and surrounding areas. Though it won the 2023 state elections with 64 out of 119 Assembly seats, it could not even win one seat in the GHMC area. Post 2023 however, it won the Secunderabad Cantonment and Jubilee Hills (in November) in by-elections.

Kavitha Sends Legal Notice to BRS, BJP Leaders Over Husband Remarks

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Santosh chowdary

Telangana Jagruthi Samithi president K Kavitha on Friday issued legal notices to BRS MLA Madhavaram Krishna Rao and BJP MP Aleti Maheshwar Reddy over alleged remarks made against her husband. She clarified that her husband had no involvement in business on government lands near IDPL. Speaking to the media, Kavitha said, "There is no connection between me or my husband and the land. Industrial lands leased by the government were selectively handed over to private



persons during the BRS rule. Time will reveal who signed and who was behind these deals."

The legal notices come amid rising tensions within the Kalvakuntla family. Kavitha has been critical of her cousins and

BRS leaders, including Harish Rao and Joginapally Santosh Kumar, accusing them of misconduct. She claimed her political moment is yet to come and reaffirmed her ambition to become Chief Minister one day. "Once I sit in the chair, I will

review all incidents since Telangana was formed in 2014," she said.

Kavitha also criticised the current Congress government, alleging that Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, who came to power on an anti-corruption platform, has failed to act against irregularities during the previous regime. "Revanth Reddy is silent as he is linked to business transactions in the BRS government. The Congress leadership remains quiet due to its ties with the beneficiaries of past industrial land deals. Time will tell if anyone conducts a proper inquiry," she said.

The controversy highlights the growing political rift in Telangana. Since the BRS defeat in the 2023 elections, Kavitha has openly criticised party leaders, a move that ultimately led to her exit from the party.

Analysts say her aggressive stance signals a potential political comeback and a challenge to both BRS and Congress leaders in the state. Kavitha's legal notices and public statements reflect her determination to safeguard her family's reputation while asserting her political ambitions. With tensions rising, the issue is expected to dominate state political discourse in the coming weeks.

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